



Howard County Happenings with Allan H. Kittleman

August 2017

County on track to re-open B&O Station this fall

Dear friends:

The B&O Railroad Station in Ellicott City is one of the most historic treasures in Howard County. It's the oldest remaining passenger train station in the United States and the place where the B&O demonstrated the Tom Thumb, its first locomotive.

So much of our history in Ellicott City can be traced back to the day in May, 1830 when two horse-drawn rail cars made that first trip from Baltimore to what is now one of the jewels of Ellicott City. And starting September 1, the county's Department of Recreation and Parks will begin an exciting partnership by managing and operating the station.

From August 28 through October 5, the station will close for minor renovations and program development. When it reopens on Friday, October 6, general admission to the site will be free. In addition, the museum will feature a variety of educational programs and special events for school groups, families and adults for a fee.

The station becomes the latest historic site under the management of Recreation and Parks. The department already oversees the Patapsco Female Institute Historic Park; the Ellicott City Colored School, Restored; the Firehouse Museum; the Heritage Orientation Center; the Thomas Isaac Log Cabin; and the Barnard Fort House.

To find out more about the B&O Railroad Station at Ellicott City and future activities, watch the accompanying video and stay tuned to www.howardcountymd.gov/HistoricSites.



Talking with Shawn Gladden, executive director of the Howard County Historical Society and John Byrd, director of Recreation and Parks about this exciting news.

Allan

"Weekend Warrior Snack Packs" continues to feed a need



The county's Weekend Warrior Snack Pack initiative has given away nearly 700 free backpacks of nutritious food to youth under 18.

All children deserve a chance to succeed and reach their full potential. One way to help children and teens succeed is to make sure that they have access to nutritious foods. That's the premise behind the Weekend Warrior Snack Pack program we launched in late June under our Achieve 24/7 initiative.

So far, the county's Roving Radish healthy meals program has given away nearly 700 free backpacks of nutritious foods to youth under age 18 to take home for the weekend. The program, which will continue every Friday through September 1, is designed to supplement the Howard County Public School System's free lunch program.

Achieve 24/7, which will be run by the county's Department of Community Resources and Services in collaboration with many partners, focuses on filling gaps in services that, over the long-run, can have a negative impact of student success if not addressed.

In the coming months, we intend to roll out additional programs under the Achieve 24/7 umbrella.

Health Care Town Hall – save the date!

I have teamed up with Howard County General Hospital President Steven C. Snellgrove to host a Health Care Town Hall on September 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the North Laurel Community Center.

Residents will be able to ask questions about health-related issues in the county, including an upcoming expansion of the hospital, planning for a county detox and treatment center, integrated behavioral health and more. This event is free and open to the public.

Look for more details in my next newsletter and on our social media channels in the coming weeks.

Still time to visit the Howard County Fair



At the Howard County Government booth.

If you've had a chance to visit the Howard County Fair this week, then you know how much fun and educational it can be. If you haven't gone yet this year, you still have time. The fair is open through Saturday, giving you a chance to walk the midway, enjoy the rides and, of course, see the animals.

The fair is our annual event to celebrate our county's agricultural heritage. You don't want to miss it!

While you're there, be sure to visit our booth inside the Exhibition Hall and enter our drawing to win an Ellicott City/Columbia gift basket, compliments of the Visit Howard County.

Dates to Remember

- Aug. 20** [Belmont Manor and Historic Park](#)
Open House at 1 p.m.
- Sept. 4** [Labor Day offices closed](#)
- Sept. 5** [First Day of School](#)
- Sept. 9** [Dental Screening Fair](#) at North Laurel Community Center at 10 a.m.
- Sept. 11** [September 11th Remembrance Ceremony](#)
at Centennial Park at 8:46 a.m.
- Sept. 17** [Robinson Nature Center Anniversary](#)
Open House at 12 p.m.